

SENATE BILL 1581

By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section
65-25-205, relative to electric cooperatives.

WHEREAS, according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), per capita consumption of electricity in Tennessee was nearly forty-two percent (42%) higher than the U.S. average; and

WHEREAS, the EIA further notes that water heating and space heating comprise sixty-one percent (61%) of the typical home's energy usage; and

WHEREAS, TVA reported that it encountered a record demand for electricity usage in December of 2010; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans must work to reduce the peak demand of electricity; and

WHEREAS, incentives from electrical distributors that serve to exclude other fuel sources from new home construction will serve to continue to drive up electrical consumption; and

WHEREAS, increased electrical consumption will require more generating capacity, eventually resulting in greater costs to current users; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-25-205, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(e) Public policy requires diverse, competitive, efficient energy and fuel sources be available to individuals and corporations of this state. For this cause it shall be beyond the scope of a cooperative's legal authority to provide or be a conduit for any incentive to members, subscribers, builders, contractors or others in consideration of the exclusion or limitation of alternative fuel sources.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.